

## REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

The specification was amended at page 18, line 6 to include  $\alpha$ -(R,S) before -methoxycarbonylbenzyl to be consistent with compounds 19 and 20 recited on page 28, lines 19 thru 23 and Table II bridging pages 23-26 was similarly amended.

Page 42 of the specification was amended to include the propionamide numbering found at line 26 of that page.

Claim 6 was amended to include  $\alpha$ -(R,S) before -methoxycarbonylbenzyl to be consistent with compounds 19 and 20 recited on page 28, lines 19 thru 23.

This amendment was entered merely to correct an inadvertent error and does not relate to the patentability of this claim.

Claims 25 and 27 were amended to correct claim dependency.

Claims 23, 24 and 26, were cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

These claims were cancelled to reduce the claim count and cancellation thereof does not relate to the patentability of these claims.

Claims 29, 30 and 31 are added by this amendment.

These claims are supported by previously presented claims 23, 24 and 26 respectively.

Entry of these amendments are requested.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-22, 25 and 27-31 are now pending in this application.

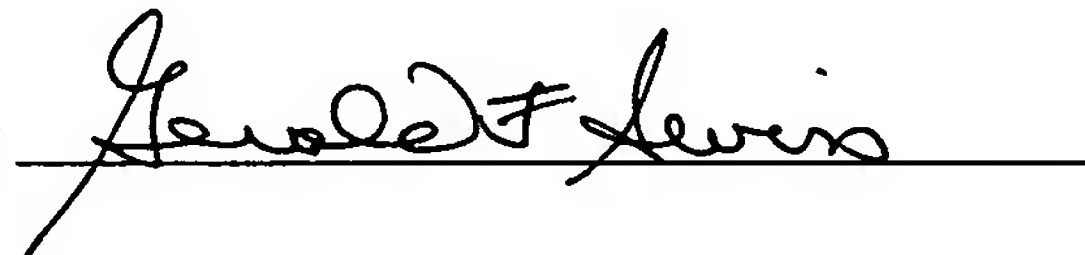
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 3/9/05

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By

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gerald F. Swiss", is written over a horizontal line.

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